

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Notes by Willis E. Bishop

The Church worships on Sunday, the first day of the week, because:

1. Christ arose on the first day of the week.
2. The Church began on the first day of the week - 50 days after the resurrection - the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2).
3. The early Church met on the first day of the week.
See Acts 20:7 and I Cor. 16:2.
4. The important Church Council of Acts 15 gave careful instructions on conduct, but NO mention was made of keeping the Sabbath.
Read Acts 15:28,29.
5. Early Christian writings mention Church worship on the first day of the week.
 - cir. 100-125 A.D. - the Didache, Chapt. 14, The Lord's Day
 - cir. 100 A.D. - the writings of Barnabas
 - cir. 107 A.D. - the writings of Ignatius
 - cir. 145-150 A.D. - the writings of Justin Martyr -
"The Day Called Sunday"
 - cir. 155-202 A.D. - the writings of Irenaeus
6. The Sabbath day was given as a sign between the Lord and the Children of Israel - NOT the Church.
See Exodus 31:17; Neh. 9:13,14.
7. No Council changed the worship day from Saturday to Sunday.
The Church was already keeping the first day!
8. The Sabbath never was a day of worship -- or any manner of religious service. It was a day of rest.
9. It seems to me that insisting upon the Sabbath as the day of worship puts me back under the Law -- from which Christ set me free. And I am free to worship Him every day of the week!

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